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25 MAR 1963

63-2477

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : The Comptroller

SUBJECT : Acquisition of Land for Radio Transmitter Station,
[redacted]

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for Deputy Director of Central Intelligence approval. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 6.

2. It has been evident for some time that the inadequacy from a size standpoint and the growth of the suburban area of [redacted] would force the move of the transmitter portion of the Agency radio station [redacted] now located in [redacted] a suburb of [redacted]. Accordingly, \$400,000 was included in the FY-1964 budget estimates of the Office of Communications for the initial phase of this relocation program.

3. Early this fiscal year, the Navy began an extensive search for [redacted] operations. Because of the economic, cover and logistics advantages, we expressed a desire for the Navy to include our land requirements along with their own. This they have done and the 120 acres needed by this Agency have been a consideration in their search and land negotiations.

4. The Navy has located 400 acres that is suitable for their and our requirements and they have initiated action for procurement of the land using counterpart funds. The Navy has been informed recently that despite the use of counterpart funds, an obligation of appropriated funds is necessary. Under these circumstances the Navy is requesting that CIA pay their proportionate share (30%) of the land cost. Negotiations for the land have not reached final stages and the cost is not yet firm but the estimated figure for the total acreage is about one million dollars.

5. Over the past several years there have been intermittent pressures from the [redacted] for some payment for allowing the operation of our large radio station, including the Navy monitoring facility, [redacted]. Lately these pressures have been increasing and State Department representatives have indicated that they feel there is a possibility that either the

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27 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Executive Director
SUBJECT : Acquisition of Land for Radio Transmitter
Station,

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1. Acquisition of the Communications site proposed by the Director of Communications appears to me very much in the interests of the Agency. Although the proposed purchase price per acre strikes me as outrageously high, the negotiations have been reviewed by the Embassy and acquisition of the site has been recommended by the Ambassador as reasonable and as representing the only available site.
2. Funds for the purpose will have to come from reprogramming or year-end savings but can be made available in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.
3. Approval of the proposal is recommended.

JOHN A. BROSS
Comptroller

cc: Director of Communications

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